

10/713,562

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REMARKS

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowability of claims 21-33, 44-53, 55 and 56, and of claims 8-12, 17, 18 and 39-41 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claims and intervening claims. Claims 8, 17, and 39 have been so rewritten, by including the recitations of former base claims and intervening claims. Claims 9-12, 18, 40 and 41 are dependent on the rewritten claims.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 6, 7, 13-16, 19, 20, 34-38, 42, 43 and 54. Rejected claims 1-4, 6, 7, 13-16, 19, 20, 34-38, 42, 43 and 54 have been cancelled without prejudice in order to expedite prosecution of this application. The Applicant reserves the right to pursue these cancelled claims in a continuing application or otherwise.

This amendment should be entered under 37 C.F.R. 1.116(b)(1) in that it only cancels claims and places other claims in the form indicated in the Office Action to be allowable.

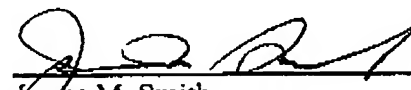
CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all current claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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